

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An ink jet recording apparatus provided with a component of electrical conduction and an ink supply port for recording by discharging ink supplied from an ink tank to an ink jet recording head, comprising:
  - 5 a mounting surface for mounting ink tank;
  - a connector arranged for said mounting surface, said connector being provided with electric contact electrically conductible with the component of electrical conduction of said ink tank mounted on said mounting surface;
  - 10 an ink outlet port arranged on said mounting surface, said ink outlet port being communicated with said ink outlet port of said ink tank mounted on said mounting surface; and
  - 15 an electric contact supporting unit arranged for said connector for supporting said electric contact, at the same time, lying between said electric contact and said ink outlet port on said mounting surface.
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3. An ink jet recording apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said electric contact is arranged in plural numbers in the direction intersecting with a line connecting said electric contact and said ink outlet port.

Claim 1 or Claim 2, wherein said connector is arranged on said mounting surface to be above said ink outlet port in the gravitational direction.

5           4. An ink jet recording apparatus according to  
Claim 3, wherein said mounting surface is inclined to  
the horizontal plane.

10          5. An ink jet recording apparatus according to  
Claim 1 or Claim 2, wherein said ink jet recording head  
discharges ink supplied from ink tank using thermal  
energy generated by electrothermal converting elements.

15          6. An ink jet recording apparatus according to  
Claim 1 or Claim 2, wherein said ink jet recording head  
discharges ink supplied from ink tank using energy  
generated by piezoelectric elements.

20          7. An ink jet recording apparatus provided with a  
component of electrical conduction and an ink supply  
port for recording by discharging ink supplied from an  
ink tank to an ink jet recording head, comprising:

25            a mounting surface for mounting ink tank;  
              an ink outlet port arranged on said mounting  
surface, said ink outlet port being communicated with  
said ink outlet port of said ink tank mounted on said  
mounting surface; and

a connector arranged to be above said ink outlet port in the gravitational direction, said connector being provided with electric contact electrically conductible with the component of electrical conduction of said ink tank mounted on said mounting surface.

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8. An ink jet recording apparatus according to Claim 7, wherein said mounting surface is inclined to the horizontal plane.

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9. An ink jet recording apparatus according to Claim 6 or Claim 7, wherein said ink jet recording head discharges ink supplied from ink tank using thermal energy generated by electrothermal converting elements.

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10. An ink jet recording apparatus according to Claim 7 or Claim 8, wherein said ink jet recording head discharges ink supplied from ink tank using energy generated by piezoelectric elements.

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11. An ink jet recording apparatus provided with a component of electrical conduction and an ink supply port for recording by discharging ink supplied from an ink tank to an ink jet recording head, comprising:

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a mounting surface for mounting ink tank;  
a connector arranged for said mounting surface,  
said connector being provided with electric contact

electrically conductible with the component of  
electrical conduction of said ink tank mounted on said  
mounting surface;

5           an ink outlet port arranged on said mounting  
surface, said ink outlet port being communicated with  
said ink outlet port of said ink tank mounted on said  
mounting surface; and

10          an electric contact supporting unit arranged for  
said connector for supporting said electric contact in  
plural numbers in the direction orthogonal to the line  
connecting said electric contact and said ink outlet  
port, at the same time, lying between said electric  
contact and said ink outlet port on said mounting  
surface.

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12. An ink jet recording apparatus according to  
Claim 11, wherein said ink jet recording head  
discharges ink supplied from ink tank using thermal  
energy generated by electrothermal converting elements.

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13. An ink jet recording apparatus according to  
Claim 11, wherein said ink jet recording head  
discharges ink supplied from ink tank using energy  
generated by piezoelectric elements.

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14. An ink tank mounted on the ink tank mounting  
surface of an ink jet recording apparatus for recording

by use of an ink jet recording head, having an ink outlet port, an electric contact, and a connector provided with an electrical contact supporting member laying between said electric contact and said ink outlet port for supporting said electric contact, and said electric contact being arranged to be above said ink outlet port in the gravitational direction,  
5 comprising:

10 an ink container for containing ink to be used for recording;

an ink supply port for supplying ink in said ink container to the ink jet recording apparatus side by communicating with said ink outlet port when mounted on said mounting surface; and

15 a component of electrical conduction to obtain electrical conduction with said electric contact when mounted on said mounting surface.

15. An ink jet recording apparatus according to  
20 Claim 5, wherein said component of electrical conduction is used for attaining the electrical transmission of information between an information holding unit for holding information characteristic of said ink tank regarding records kept for said ink tank,  
25 and said ink jet recording apparatus.

16. An ink jet recording apparatus according to

Claim 14 or Claim 15, wherein said ink jet recording head discharges ink supplied from ink tank using thermal energy generated by electrothermal converting elements.

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17. An ink jet recording apparatus according to Claim 14 or Claim 15, wherein said ink jet recording head discharges ink supplied from ink tank using energy generated by piezoelectric elements.

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